

THE HONORABLE BENJAMIN H. SETTLE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

HP TUNERS, LLC, a Nevada limited
liability company,

Plaintiff,

v.

KEVIN SYKES-BONNETT, SYKED ECU
TUNING INCORPORATED, a Washington
corporation, and JOHN MARTINSON

Defendants.

Cause No. 3:17-cv-05760 BHS

**DECLARATION OF JOHN
MARTINSON IN FURTHER
SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS'
MOTION FOR PARTIAL
SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

I, John Martinson, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am one of the named Defendants in the above-captioned matter and I helped develop the Syked ECU Tuning software that is at issue in this lawsuit. I am familiar with the content and operation of the Syked ECU Tuning software that is at issue in this lawsuit.
2. Attached is a true and correct copy of an Application Note, AN_407 "D3XX .NET Programmers Guide" dated November 1, 2016 (the "Programmer's Guide") issued by Future Technology Devices International Limited ("FTDI") of Glasgow, United Kingdom, a maker of various interfaces for use with USB devices. (Exhibit "A")

1 3. The Programmer's Guide is a freely distributed document
2 that FTDI makes publicly available to programmers to encourage them to
3 incorporate FTDI's chips into various third party computer hardware
4 products. It is in FTDI's interest to make it as easy as possible for
5 programmers to learn to program with FTDI chips to encourage their
6 adoption. The Programmer's Guide that is published by FTDI is freely
7 available to the public and is not governed by any obligations of
8 confidentiality.
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10 4. At page 12 of the Programmer's Guide are instructions
11 provided by FTDI that show how to use their "OpenBySerialNumber"
12 command to enable communication with USB devices. This instruction
13 uses the general command "FT_STATUS OpenBySerialNumber(string
14 szSerialNumber)" which command is incorporated into prior versions of
15 the Syked ECU Tuning software. That command "opens" a connection to
16 a hardware device, such as an HPTuners cable, connected to any
17 Windows computer using a USB port.
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19 5. The "OpenBySerialNumber" command that appears in the
20 FTDI Programmer's Guide is openly documented and freely available for
21 use by the public. No command in the FTDI Programmer's Guide,
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1 including the “OpenBySerialNumber” command, is proprietary to HP
2 Tuners nor any entity other than FTDI.

3 6. As further explained in the FTDI Programmer’s Guide, the
4 “string szSerialNumber” portion is a variable that may be assigned a value
5 (a “Name”) corresponding to any hardware device plugged into the
6 Windows computer system. For example, if a keyboard is plugged into a
7 USB port of the Windows computer system, that keyboard will have (or
8 be assigned by the system) a unique “DeviceID” or “Name” so that other
9 components of the Windows computer system can communicate with the
10 keyboard. Likewise, if a Syked Eliminator cable (or an HP Tuners cable)
11 is plugged into the Windows computer system, that cable will have a
12 unique “DeviceID” or “Name” so that other components of the Windows
13 computer system can communicate with the cable.

14 7. The “OpenBySerialNumber” command opens a
15 communication link to whatever hardware device is identified by the
16 value (or “Name”) assigned to the “string szSerialNumber” portion of the
17 command. In other words, a “Name” is assigned to the code
18 “szSerialNumber” and the “OpenBySerialNumber” command establishes
19 a communication link to the hardware device identified by that value.
20 Often, the code to be assigned to the “szSerialNumber” variable for any
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1 particular hardware device may be easily obtained from the device itself,
2 including but not limited to the tuning cable devices manufactured and
3 sold by HP Tuners.
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5 8. The process for obtaining the “Name” of a USB hardware
6 device plugged into a USB port is trivial for anyone with even moderate
7 computer skills. More specifically, to find the “Name” or “DeviceID” of
8 any USB hardware device, including the tuning cable devices
9 manufactured and sold by HP Tuners, the hardware device is first plugged
10 into the USB port on a Windows based PC. Once the hardware device is
11 plugged in and connected, the user “right clicks” the “Start” menu icon of
12 the Windows computer system, which brings up the menu depicted in
13 Exhibit “B” to this Declaration.
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17 9. From that menu, the user clicks the “Device Manager”
18 selection (see Exhibit “B”), which launches the Microsoft Windows
19 Device Manager. The Device Manager is a core feature of the Microsoft
20 Windows operating system and is in no way associated with HP Tuners.
21 Launching the Windows Device Manager brings up a listing of all devices
22 currently connected to the Windows computer system. Hardware devices
23 that are connected to the Windows computer system through a USB port
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1 are shown under the heading “Universal Serial Bus Controllers”. An
2 example of such a Device Manager listing is shown in Exhibit “C”:

3 10. In the list shown in Exhibit “C”, the entries “HP Tuners
4 MPVI Channel A” and “HP Tuners MPVI Channel B” identify an HP
5 Tuners cable connected to the Windows computer system. It is well
6 known by anyone who programs with an FTDI chip that some devices use
7 two “channels” to communicate with a USB hardware device using an
8 FTDI USB device controller. That is why there are two entries for the
9 same USB hardware device. See Exhibit “C”.
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11 11. Selecting either “HP Tuners MPVI Channel A” or “HP
12 Tuners MPVI Channel B” and “right clicking” brings up a context menu
13 that offers several different options, including “Properties” option. See
14 Exhibit “D”.
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16 12. Selecting the “Properties” option from that context menu and
17 then selecting the “details” tab from the choices that subsequently appear
18 reveals the “Device ID” of that hardware device. Shown in Exhibits “E”
19 and “F” are the “details” tabs for both the HP Tuners MPVI channels.
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21 13. As is apparent in those two images, the HP Tuners “MPVI”
22 cable identifies itself using the Name “**HPT00021**” for each of Channels
23 “A” and “B”. Thus, the HP Tuners “MPVI” cable announces itself to the
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1 Windows computer system for communication using the Device IDs of
2 “HPT00021A” and “HPT00021B” (for each of Channel A and Channel B,
3 respectively). See Exhibits “E” and “F”.
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5 14. The codes which appear in Dr. Staroswiecki’s Expert Report
6 at paragraph 31 are merely the publicly disclosed Device IDs for the HP
7 Tuners MPVI cable shown above. Accordingly, those two codes are
8 neither secret nor kept confidential to HP Tuners. In fact, quite the
9 contrary. Unless those two codes are made publicly discoverable, the HP
10 Tuners MPVI cable could not operate in the Windows computer
11 environment.
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14 15. The Device IDs shown above can be readily ascertained by
15 anyone with moderate computer skills using a Windows-based computer,
16 and they are not confidential information.
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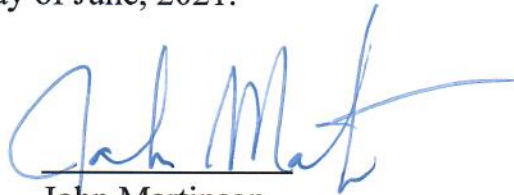
18 16. The two device Names identified above (“HPT00021A” and
19 “HPT00021B”) have been incorrectly referred to as “files.” In fact, those
20 two terms are only “names” that the HP Tuners hardware cable publishes
21 to the Windows computer system so that it, and any software executing on
22 it, can communicate with the hardware cable.
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25 17. In his expert report at paragraph 33, Dr. Staroswiecki
26 assumes that the presence of the publicly available Device IDs for HP
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1 Tuners' MPVI cable "implies that Syked was using HPTs
2 communications protocols." Dr. Starowswiecki is wrong. As shown
3 above, the two codes that existed (and have long since been removed) in
4 the Syked Tuning software were publicly available to any user with
5 minimal computer skills.
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8 18. I declare under under penalty of perjury, that all statements
9 made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made
10 herein on information and belief are believed to be true.
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12 Dated this 2nd day of June, 2021.

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15 John Martinson
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